



**STATE OF DELAWARE
SENTENCING ACCOUNTABILITY
COMMISSION**

**Hon. Matthew Denn
Hon. T. Henley Graves
Hon. Alan G. Davis
Timothy Willard, Esq.
Hon. Kenneth S. Clark Jr.**

**Hon. William C. Carpenter, Jr.
Chairman**

**Martin W. Johnson, III
Hon. Brendan J. O'Neill
Hon. Robert Coupe
Col. Nathaniel McQueen
Dr. James Wilson**

**Minutes
SENTAC
DOC Conference Room
November 17, 2017**

Commissioners in Attendance: Chair, Honorable William C. Carpenter, Jr., of Superior Court, Honorable Kenneth Clark, of Court of Common Pleas, Kathleen Hutchinson representing JP Court, Deputy Commissioner Alan Grinstead representing the Department of Correction, Monroe Hudson representing the Delaware State Police, Sean Lugg representing the Department of Justice, and public member Timothy Willard, Esq.

Others in Attendance: Rebecca McBride from the Department of Correction, Spencer Price from the Controller's Office, Kate Parker from Delaware Center for Justice, Mark Pariseau, Director of Correctional Industries. Romie Griesmer, of the Criminal Justice Council staffed the meeting.

1. Open Meeting

The meeting was called to order at approximately 2:05pm.

2. Approval of Minutes

The Minutes of the September 15, 2017 Meeting were approved.

3. Updates to the 2018 Benchbook (Romie Griesmer)

Redlined copies of the proposed changes to the Benchbook pursuant to five new legislative bills were presented to the Commission. Commissioners were asked to take a close look at these and offer and refer any edits or comments to Romie in the near future. Sean Lugg suggested that the two recently added Superior Court procedural administrative orders regarding habitual offenders be added to the Benchbook. The Commissioners agreed this would be a helpful addition.

4. Correctional Industries Presentation (Mark Pariseau)

Mark Pariseau, Director of Correctional Industries gave the Commission a comprehensive overview of the opportunities provided to inmates. Currently 174 inmates are employed which is their capacity. They have the ability to do woodworking, wood engraving, upholstery, garment production, embroidery, printing, sublimation, picture framing, silk screening, car repair, concrete manufacturing, and welding. They make furniture as well as repair, paint and refinish furniture. Their mission is to train the inmates in a skill that is needed in society and to focus on industries that do not require work inside homes. In addition to the technical skills workers are also learning valuable life skills such as meeting expectations, having responsibilities, working collaboratively, sharing knowledge and skills with others. They also learn to take care of the tools, machines, workplace, and products they make. They take great pride in their work and in their mastery of skills. They are told they represent DCI in the prison as well as at work and this seems to have an effect. The work schedule is Mon-Fri for 10 hour shifts. Most jobs are outside the fence of Vaughn but very close to the prison. The inmates are picked up by bus and taken there. The inmates are able to work toward getting their NCCER certification in welding, cabinetry, carpentry, and dry wall. If CI doesn't have a certificate program for a particular industry, they will give the inmate a certificate that lists all the skills they mastered and how many hours they have completed to take out into the community when they look for work. When they have a serious write-up in the prison, they are discharged from the program. Mr. Pariseau shared his goal of spreading out the program to other facilities. He is looking at Baylor for a quick print shop. He would also like to be at Gander Hill. The need for advertising was discussed and CI is developing a website. Because they have received complaints about competition from outside industries, they have tried to find industries where there is a need, for example they are currently looking at Go-Green chemicals. They intend to start tracking data about the success rate of inmates released who participated in DCI. A suggestion was made that they also keep track of the behavior of inmates in the program while in prison in comparison with inmates who are not to show that the program helps with facility safety as well.

5. Pretrial Modernization Efforts (Kate Parker, Delaware Center for Justice)

Kate Parker gave a presentation on Pretrial Updates on behalf of the Committee chaired by Judge Davis. The Committee is looking to move to a more risk based pre-trial release system focused on the risk of failure to appear and new charges. Kate explained that studies show that folks who are detained are more likely to be convicted, plead guilty, be incarcerated, and receive longer sentences compared to their similarly situated released counterparts. The study took into account prior criminal record but excluded VOPs. Judge Clark expressed concern that the charge of escape was not considered among the assessment risk factors. In Delaware, the data shows that most people are detained for less than \$50,000, 20% of the people detained are there for less than \$5,000, 1602 people are spending 2-3 days in and then being released, and almost the same number spend up to 2 weeks in jail and then are released. Many in this situation will have lost critical needs during this time such as employment or housing. The Committee is looking to have Delaware adopt a Decision Making Framework including a new decision making tool that provides a DEL-PAT Score. They anticipate that this will be online in March and trainings will precede the roll-out.

6. Compliance with 21 Del. C. § 4177(d)(9) by defendants who are at Level 4 WR (Judge Carpenter).

There are still problems in Kent County of getting DUI inmates who are at work release to intensive outpatient treatment. This agenda item was pushed to our next meeting to allow DOC to review the situation.

7. Adjournment

There being no new business or public comment, the meeting was adjourned at approximately 4:00pm.